

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE - SPOTLIGHT SPECIES ACTION PLAN

Common Name: New Mexico meadow jumping mouse

Scientific Name: *Zapus hudsonius luteus*

Lead Region: 2

Lead Field Office: New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, Albuquerque

Species Information:

Status: Candidate

Listing Priority Number: 3

Candidate Assessment Form: December 10, 2008 (73 FR 75176)

Most Recent 5-year Review: None

Other: We were petitioned to list the jumping mouse as endangered or threatened with critical habitat on October 15, 2008.

Threats: The most significant threats to the New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (jumping mouse) are:

- a. Excessive grazing pressure
- b. Water use and management
- c. Recreation
- d. Loss of Beaver

Target: The 5-year goal is to improve the status of the species and lower the listing priority by decreasing the magnitude and imminence of the threats to the species.

Measure: The intent of the actions outlined for the next 5 years is to double the documented number of populations rangewide from 16 to 32 either through habitat restoration or surveys.

Actions: The following are the major actions needed from the 2008 Candidate Assessment Form:

1. Exclude livestock from riparian areas through the construction of buck and pole fences on the Santa Fe and Lincoln National Forests in New Mexico. Ensure annual compliance of the 35 percent forage utilization guideline on grazing allotments within the Santa Fe and Lincoln National Forests in New Mexico and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in Arizona.

2. Conduct additional surveys for the jumping mouse to increase the known number of extant populations. Focus areas should include: the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and the Rio Grande Valley, including private lands, Pueblos, and Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, New Mexico; Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Arizona; and any potential habitat in southern Colorado.
3. Develop a conservation strategy for the species, to guide coordinated conservation efforts by multiple partners. This strategy would include a beaver management/restoration plan for historic and extant jumping mouse localities.
4. Initiate at least one habitat restoration project on the Santa Fe National Forest or private lands by reintroducing beaver.

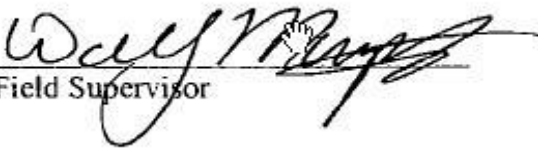
Action	Threat Addressed	Responsible Parties	Estimated Cost
Construct and maintain livestock enclosures	a,c	USFWS, NMDGF, USFS	\$75,000
Design survey protocol and train surveyors	a,b,c,d	USFWS, NM State University, NMDGF	\$3,000 per year beginning in FY10
Conduct surveys	a,b,c,d	USFWS, BOR, NM State University, NMDGF, AGFD, CDOW, USFS, NM State Parks	\$50,000
Reintroduce and monitor beaver	c,d	USFWS, USFS, NMDGF	\$5,000
Develop conservation strategy	a,b,c,d	USFWS, BOR, NM State University, NMDGF, AGFD, CDOW, USFS, NM State Parks	\$5,000
Investigate water management effects	b	USFWS, BOR, NMSU	\$50,000
Reporting results of actions	a,b,c,d	USFWS	\$5,000

Role of other agencies: The New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, the Santa Fe and Lincoln National Forests in New Mexico and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in Arizona, and New Mexico State University are all key parties in conservation activities for the jumping mouse. The cooperation of the USFS is critical to reduce the impact of livestock on the jumping mouse. Other important cooperators include the State Game and Fish Agencies, Bureau of Reclamation, New Mexico State Parks, and potentially private landowners.

Role of other ESA programs: The New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office (NMESFO) will attempt to address livestock management through a collaborative program with the USFS and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

Role of other FWS programs: If funds were available, Partners for Fish and Wildlife could develop agreements with private landowners and New Mexico State Parks.

Additional funding analysis: If additional funds were received the NMESFO could also train surveyors and conduct monitoring to locate additional extant populations. It is unknown whether historic locations on lands owned by Native American Tribes and Pueblos are extant.


Field Supervisor

Date 8/3/09